

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0005] with the following amended paragraph:

[0005] Embodiments of the invention provide a simplified mechanism for applications and administrators to interact with data repositories via a mapping of complex structures, protocols, etc., to a programming platform that is already well understood. In particular, in an embodiment of the invention, a directory interface is provided that accepts simplified commands that do not employ repository syntax and schema and translates the commands into reformatted commands that do utilize the appropriate syntax and schema. In this manner, ~~[[and]]~~ an administrator or application may access a repository without being required to know or embody repository type-specific information. Moreover, the same class structure and syntax can then be used to access different repositories having varying schema and syntax.

Please replace paragraph [0006] with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] In an embodiment of the invention, the ability to translate from repository non-specific commands to repository-specific commands is facilitated by a mapping of class data structures to repository data structures. In the schema repositories such as directory services there are typically repository classes (hereinafter sometimes referred to as schema classes), repository attributes, and repository syntax (hereinafter sometimes referred to as schema syntax). In the Object Oriented programming model, such as that of C++ and C#, there are typically object classes, object properties, and object ~~[[syntax .]]~~ syntax. With respect to the mapping of class data structures to repository data structures, an object class may be mapped to one or more schema classes within the repository schema, and particular class properties may then be mapped to particular schema attributes of the relevant schema class or classes. In a further embodiment of the invention, the mapping of object classes to schema classes, and object properties to schema attributes, is effectuated by supplementing the relevant object class definition via metadata.

Please replace paragraph [0044] with the following amended paragraph:

[0044] As discussed above, the directory interface 305, either alone or in conjunction with other interfaces or APIs, also translates results received from the repository. Exemplary LDAP formatted results from a directory service etc., for read, write, and search commands typically have the following form and complexity: